

GUIDE TO KASHMIR

THE TOURIST TRAFFIC BRANCH
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
NEW DELHI



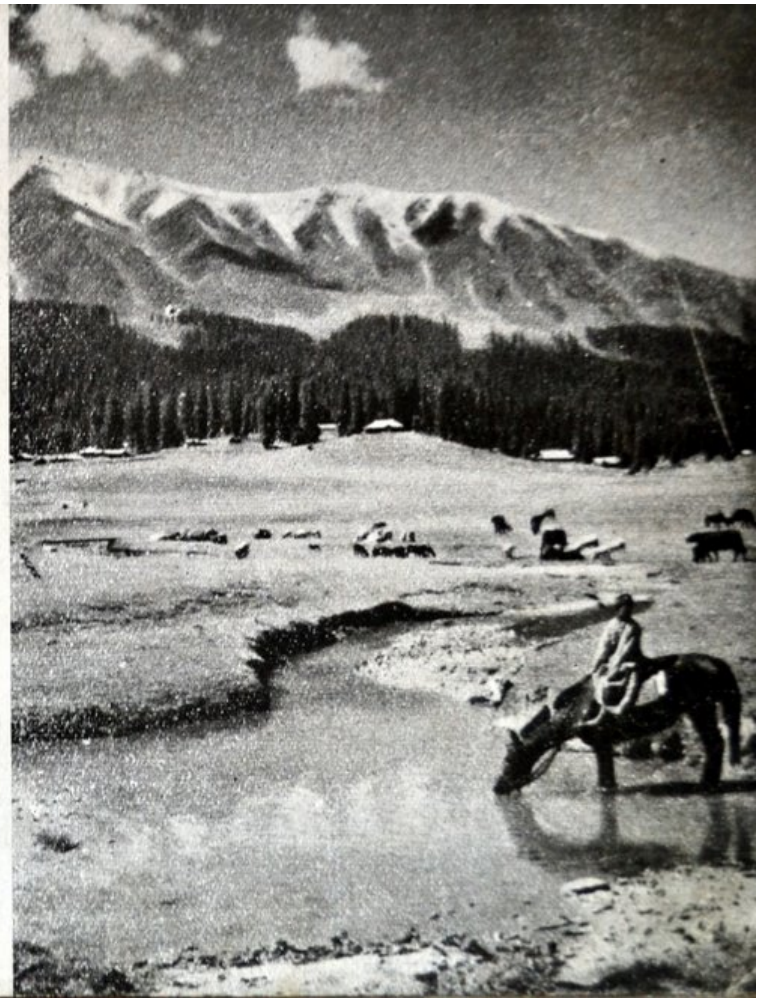


THE TOURIST'S PARADISE

THERE is an Arabic proverb which says: Three things there are that ease the heart from sorrow—water, green grass and the beauty of woman. If this be true, there is no place for sorrow in the Valley of Kashmir for there you will find all the three things in ample measure, and a lot else besides, to charm away the gloom and monotony of everyday life.

The first visit to Kashmir is always a

A view of Gulmarg





memorable experience. Whether you travel by land or by air, the beauty of the valley makes such a sudden and immediate impact on your sensibilities that you are overwhelmed by a sense of wonder. This soon gives place to a feeling of unmixed delight. The nature of the landscape changes the moment you cross the Pir Panjal—the high mountain range which lies along the southern boundary of the valley. On one side lie the yellow brown hills of Jammu, almost arid in their aspect, but as you emerge from the tunnel at the top of the Banihal Pass, you see, on the other side, a vast stretch of rich green fields with rivulets and tiny rills meandering through them. In the distance, a narrow green ribbon, flanked by a double row of poplars, runs out to disappear into the denser

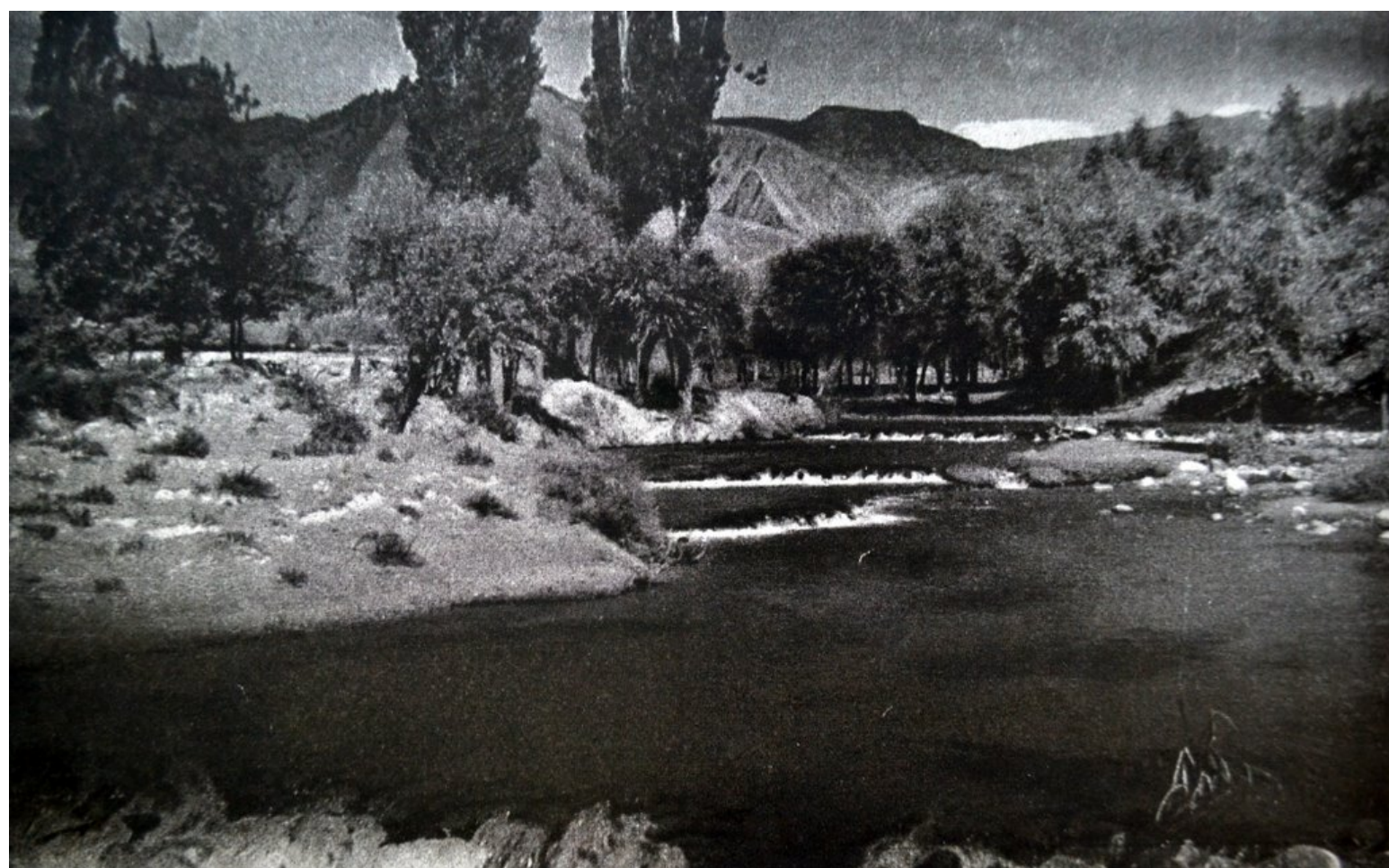
Kashmiri belle

confusion of a patch-work panorama. This is the motor road to Srinagar. The poplars were planted by the Mogul emperors and as they age and wither, new ones are planted to take their place. And round all this stands the glorious amphitheatre of the Northern Himalayas with their snow covered peaks. It has been justly said that the Kashmir Valley is a jewel set in the heart of rocks or, more appropriately, an emerald set in pearls. Sir Thomas Moore exclaimed through the lips of his hero, Aliris, the King of Bucharria :

Who has not heard of the vale of
Cashmere
With its roses the brightest that
earth ever gave,
Its temples and grottos and fountains
as clear
As the love-lighted eyes that hang
o'er their wave?
Lalla Rookh.

Lotus flowers





THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE

KASHMIR is slightly smaller than Great Britain, extending about 84,471 sq. miles in area. It is 80 miles long, 20 to 25 miles in breadth, and ranges in altitude between 5,200 and 6,000 ft. above sea level.

Fair of complexion and regular of feature, its people are mostly of the Aryan type. They have a keen sense of form and colour and make excellent craftsmen.

Trout stream at Kokarnag

*Children of
the Valley*



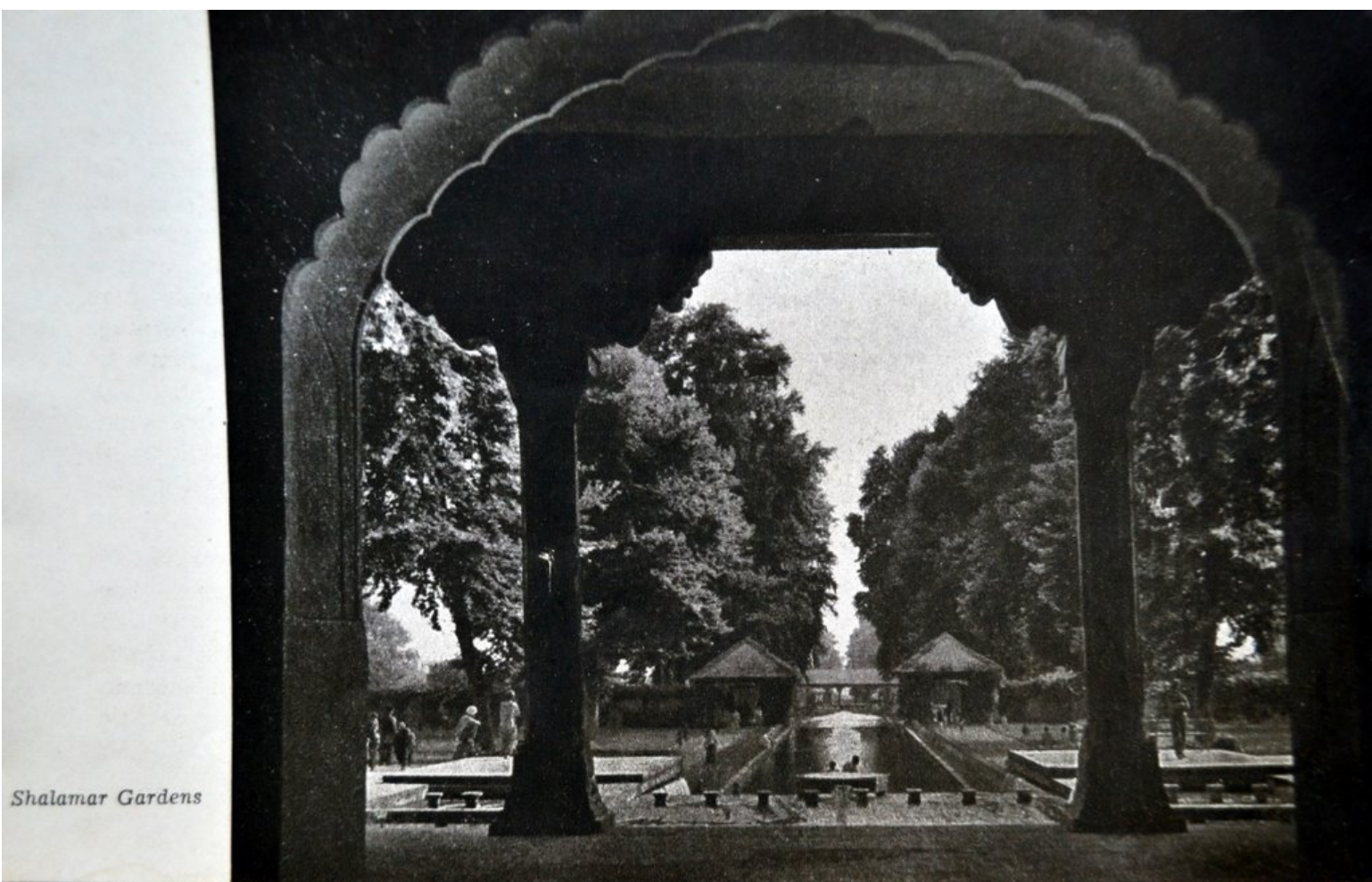


Ruins at Martand

History—The State of Kashmir, after being alternately a dependency of Indian kingdoms and a part of the Mongolian empire, came into prominence during the Mogul

period. Akbar conquered it in 1587 and paid several subsequent visits. The Moguls disliked the heat and dust of the plains and sought refuge in this beautiful valley where they constructed and laid out several gardens at great expense. Jehangir constructed Shalamar, Achhabal and Verinag. He and the empress Nur Jehan came to Kashmir several times and all along the route from Delhi to Srinagar *serais* were built and gardens laid out. The remains of some of these can still be seen along the Jammu-Srinagar road.

The appeal of Kashmir is not restricted to the poet or the Mogul emperor alone. The Valley holds a great deal for everybody. It caters to all tastes. The poet and the painter find inspiration in every nook and corner. The botanist can spend many profitable



Shalamar Gardens



hours studying rare specimens, for Kashmir abounds in flowers and herbs of countless varieties. The archaeologist will find matter for absorbing interest and profound enquiry in the remains of temples and monasteries which stand as evidence of a past civilization worthy of the traditions of our country. The geologist will find an answer to some of his problems and find new problems that require an answer. The photographer will want to click the shutter of his camera at every step. The collector and the lover of art will be overcome by an *embarras de richesse* when he finds himself confronted with a vast and attractive choice of carved wood articles, papier-mache decorations, silverware of exquisite craftsmanship, tastefully embroidered shawls, magnificent hand-made carpets, furs, homespun

Wood-carving



Engraved
silverware

tweeds and blankets, semi-precious stones, objets d'art and a hundred other things.

Sport—The sportsman can make a choice according to his taste and inclination. For the hardy and intrepid mountaineer there are peaks of every variety—arm-chair ones like the thousand feet cone of Shankaracharya or Takht-e-Sulaiman in Srinagar, or difficult and challenging ones like Nanga Parbat, the 26,696 feet massif which stands towering above the valley and is perhaps the most forbidding mountain peak in the world. In between, there are hundreds of treks (of varying degrees of difficulty) which the visitor can plan and undertake. He may visit the Liddar Valley which is easy of approach, explore the various ramifications of the Sind Valley, make the ascent of Apharwat above Gulmarg, and see the frozen lake

sacred to the serpent god Ailapator, a satellite of Shiva, climb the Mahadev (13,013 feet) near Srinagar,—a feat which can be accomplished in one day—make a trip to the Kola-hoi glacier or well, he can do whatever his capacity, his taste and the time at his disposal permit him to do.

There is tennis in Srinagar and Gulmarg and the visitor can join the local clubs as a temporary member. The golf course at Gulmarg is considered to be one of the best in the world and is of the kind which inspires both beginners and experienced players to the highest limits of achievement. It also exasperates and provokes them to express their sentiments in the colourful language associated with this game. The Srinagar Club also has a golf course and runs a golf club in addition.

A day's catch





In the winter months, Gulmarg offers excellent skiing to lovers of winter sports.

The angler can spend many peaceful and profitable days with a line and rod. The lakes and streams of Kashmir provide him with ample scope for occupation. The three kinds of fish available are, coarse, mahseer and trout and there is an abundance of each kind. A fishing licence may be obtained at the office of the Game Warden in Srinagar. Tents and fishing tackle can be obtained from any of the tourist agencies.

Swimming and surf riding by means of a tow rope attached to a motor boat is practised by enthusiasts of water sports in the Dal and Nagin lakes.

There is good shooting available for the *shikari*. The *chukor* or hill pheasant, ducks,

wild fowl and snipe provide some of the small game. For the big game hunter there is the red bear, the black bear, the snow leopard, the antelope, the snow lynx and the ibex. A licence for shooting can be obtained from the Game Warden. The visitor may bring his arms and ammunition into Kashmir provided he holds a valid licence issued by the Government of India.

For those who want a quiet holiday and are in search of a place and opportunity to relax, Kashmir offers every facility and attraction. The grassy downs of Gulmarg, a quiet nook near a stream in Pahalgam or a secluded corner in any of the famous Mogul gardens in the vicinity of Srinagar is an appropriate spot for lotus-eating. Here you may lie and give yourself up to calm deliberation, or if the effort involved in deliberation is too strenuous you may just lie.

Oh! best of delights as it
ev'rywhere is
To be near the lov'd one,—what
a rapture is his
Who in moonlight and music thus
sweetly may glide
O'er the Lake of Cashmere, with

The climate of Kashmir varies with altitude. In the valley proper, the summer months, May to September, are pleasantly warm and dry. In July and August, Srinagar becomes relaxing and visitors in search of more bracing air go away to Gulmarg (8,500 feet) and Pahalgam (7,000 feet). The mean temperature at Srinagar in the month of August is 80°F., the highest in the year. In January and February, it goes down to 35°F. April, May and October are the best months for staying in Srinagar. The Gulmarg season lasts from May to October.

The annual rainfall in Srinagar seldom exceeds 27 inches. At Gulmarg it is a little more. But nowhere in the Kashmir Valley is the visitor hampered and inconvenienced by a long and continuous monsoon season which often ruins a holiday in so many hill-stations of India. You may go to Kashmir in spring and watch the snows melting and the willows turning green. The blossoms will soon be out and in May and June strawberries and cherries will be available in abundance. Plums, pears and apples follow and in early autumn, walnuts and almonds. In September and October, the *chenar* trees change their foliage to gold and copper, and in November the saffron fields are covered with mauve flowers. Perhaps autumn is in many ways the best season for Kashmir. But whatever be the time of the year, you can find a place where the climate and temperature are to your taste.

Wind-swept firs



JOURNEY TO KASHMIR

THE journey by air is easy and comfortable. From Delhi, which is the most convenient starting place, it takes only three hours and a half to reach Srinagar. The Indian Airlines Corporation (Line 4) operates the daily services between Delhi and Srinagar and between Pathankot and Srinagar as shown in Appendix IV.

The air journey is quick and inexpensive but, if one is not pressed for time, it is best to travel by car. The road is excellent and

the route offers much that is interesting and picturesque. From Udhampur (41 miles from Jammu) onwards the visitor sees a variety of natural scenery ranging from low grassy downs and steep precipices enclosing the river Chenab to the magnificent zigzag ascent to the Banihal Pass and the equally magnificent descent into the Valley.

Starting from Delhi one would do best to follow the Grand Trunk Road through Karnal, Ambala and Ludhiana as far as Jullundur, then turn north and take the new road to Pathankot *via* Mukerian, and proceed to Srinagar *via* Jammu. It is convenient to take two days over the journey, making a halt at Kud or Batote. (For details, see Appendix III). The distance between Delhi and Pathankot is 301 miles and that between Pathankot and Srinagar 267 miles. The road

is excellent throughout. A taxi may be hired at Delhi or at Pathankot to which place there is a daily fast train service. Buses run regularly between Pathankot and Srinagar and the single fare is Rs. 20 per person including road toll. The return fare is Rs. 27 per passenger.

If you are travelling by road, a visit to Verinag which is only 2 miles off the main road is eminently worth while. Near Lower Munda a sign post points the road to Verinag where there is a temple and good trout fishing. The last few miles to Srinagar take the visitor through countryside characteristic of Kashmir.



WHERE TO STAY

THE visitor to Kashmir, particularly on his first visit, makes Srinagar his destination. This is so because Srinagar is a central place from where excursions and pleasure trips to all parts of the valley can be planned and carried out. Srinagar is itself a picturesque town with numerous gardens and pleasure grounds in its neighbourhood all of which must be visited. Also it is a shopping centre where Kashmiri goods of every variety are available in abundance. Whether your holiday is long or short, you will spend some part of it in Srinagar.

Hotels—There are several good hotels providing excellent fare and every comfort. The Nedous, the Park, the Lake View and the Boulevard are European style hotels. Charges (inclusive of board) vary from Rs. 14 to Rs. 18 per day for a single room with an attached bathroom and from Rs. 26 to Rs. 40 per day for a double room.

The Indian style hotels are the River View, the Capital, the Majestic, the Khalsa, the Muslim, the Kashmir Guest House, the Grand and the Odeon. The charges vary from Rs. 5 to Rs. 8 per day for a single room and from Rs. 8 to Rs. 16 per day for a double room.

House-boats—A house-boat is in many ways a more convenient and more interesting lodging than hotels. It can be taken from

place to place and numerous pleasure spots on the Jhelum river and the Dal Lake can be visited. Thus you carry your hotel or lodging house with you and stop at the place which pleases you. Life in a house-boat is very comfortable. The average house-boat has two living rooms and two or three bedrooms with attached bathrooms. The size of the rooms is not small, for a house-boat is between 80 and 125 feet long and 10 to 20 feet wide. Catering may either be entrusted to the owner of the house-boat or arranged for independently. The rent of a house-boat ranges between Rs. 250 and Rs. 800 per month. This includes the services of four servants, lighting charges and site rent. A number of first class house-boats are equipped with sanitary fittings. A five room house-boat can accommodate six adults and four children. The charges for board and lodging (when catering is done by





the owner of the house-boat) vary from Rs. 12 to Rs. 30 per day per person. All house-boats are registered with the Visitor's Bureau Department of the Jammu and Kashmir Government. They are divided into four categories according to quality and their charges fixed accordingly.

Organised parties of students, if sponsored by a recognized institution in India, can hire house-boats at concessions rates through the Director, Visitor's Bureau, Srinagar.

Bungalows and Camps—
—Furnished houses are easily

*Inside a
house-boat*

available in Srinagar at a rental of Rs. 600 to Rs. 4,000 for the season which lasts from April to October. Some visitors prefer to live in tents. These, as also camp furniture, can be hired in Srinagar. At Pahalgam camping is far more enjoyable than living under a solid roof. Indeed, until recently, there were no hotels and scarcely any houses, and all visitors live under canvas. However, several hotels have been established since.

Provisions—Rice is the only rationed commodity and ration cards are issued without any delay by the Kashmir Government Visitors' Bureau on application. Fruits and vegetables are available in plenty at comparatively low prices.



SRINAGAR AND ITS ENVIRONS

THERE is so much to see and do in Srinagar and so many places in the neighbourhood which must be visited that a whole week may be profitably spent in sight-seeing, shopping and lotus-eating. Srinagar occupies a central position in the valley and is ideally situated for making excursions to all parts of the State.

The best way to understand the geography of Srinagar and to appreciate the variety and beauty of its landscape is to climb up the Shankaracharya hill and, from a height of

1,000 feet, get a bird's-eye view of the town. The temple of Shiva at the summit of the hill was erected on the site of an older temple built in about 200 B.C. by Jalaka, a son of the Emperor Ashoka. The temple was rebuilt in the 6th century A.D. The plinth and the low wall enclosing the temple date back to this time. The rest of the present superstructure is, however, more recent.

Opposite the Shankaracharya and on the other side of the town stands another temple on a lower hill called the Hari Parvat, an interesting though somewhat unimposing structure.

Between these two hills lies the town of Srinagar flanking the river Jhelum as it sweeps along its course in wide, picturesque curves, and filling up the space between the river and the Dal Lake. The river is spanned

by seven bridges of which Amira Kadal (The First Bridge) is a modern bridge leading to the shopping centre and the busy thoroughfares on the outskirts of the town. The workshops of silversmiths and wood-carvers are situated between the second and third bridges. The Mogul gardens lie beyond the town, skirting the Dal Lake on three sides.

Places of interest—In Srinagar the following places of interest deserve mention. *The Museum* on the left bank of the Jhelum has fine specimens of Kashmir art, curios and antiquities of interest to the tourist. *Pari Mahal* (the abode of fairies) is the site of an ancient school of astrology founded in 1650 A.D. *Juma Masjid* built in 1404 A.D. is the largest mosque in Kashmir. It is situated half a mile from the fourth bridge. *Pathar Masjid* (the stone mosque) is a structure of



polished stone built on the left bank of the river by Nur Jehan, wife of the Emperor Jehangir. It is said that misogynists refused to worship in it because it was built by a woman. *Hazrat-bal* is another large mosque on the edge of the Dal Lake. A hair of the Prophet Mohammad is kept there and is shown on the occasion of a fair when large crowds gather to get a view of it. *Shah Hamadan* is a rectangular mosque with a domed roof. It has beautifully carved doors and windows. *Pandrethan* is an interesting mediaeval temple four miles from Srinagar and is situated on the original site of the city founded by Ashoka.

The Mogul Gardens—The Mogul emperors had a highly developed sense of beauty and appreciation of the arts. Wherever they went, they built palaces, gardens and pleasure grounds. Akbar conquered Kashmir in

1587 and under the rule of the Moguls a number of gardens were laid out on sites chosen by the emperor himself.

Chashma Shahi (the royal spring) is the smallest of the Mogul gardens and is situated nearest the city. It lies at the foot of a hill five and a half miles from Srinagar. The garden was laid out by Shah Jehan at the site of a spring of ice cold water, famous for its medicinal properties.

Nishat Bagh (pleasure garden), lying two miles beyond Chashma Shahi, comes next. It is a garden laid out in ten terraces against the background of steep, bare mountains. From the highest terrace a magnificent view of the Dal Lake can be had. A water channel runs down the centre of the garden descending from terrace to terrace in a series of cascades.

*The first
bridge*



Shalamar (the abode of love) lies another two miles beyond. The garden was built by Jehangir for his queen Nur Jehan in 1619 A.D. In its general layout it resembles Nishat Bagh. It has four terraces and, in the middle, stands a pavilion of black marble surrounded on all sides by fountains. On one side of the garden is a heronry. The visitor's imagination can conjure up pictures of lovely maidens disporting themselves in these delectable surroundings for the amusement of the Mogul Queen.

Nasim Bagh (the garden of the morning breeze) lies opposite Nishat Bagh on the other side of the Lake. It is an extensive park closely planted with magnificent *chenar* trees and was laid out by Akbar after the conquest of Kashmir. Situated on an eminence above the lake, it catches the

breezes after which it is named. In early summer it is a delightful camping spot. The view of the Lake and the hills beyond is alone worth a visit to Nasim Bagh.

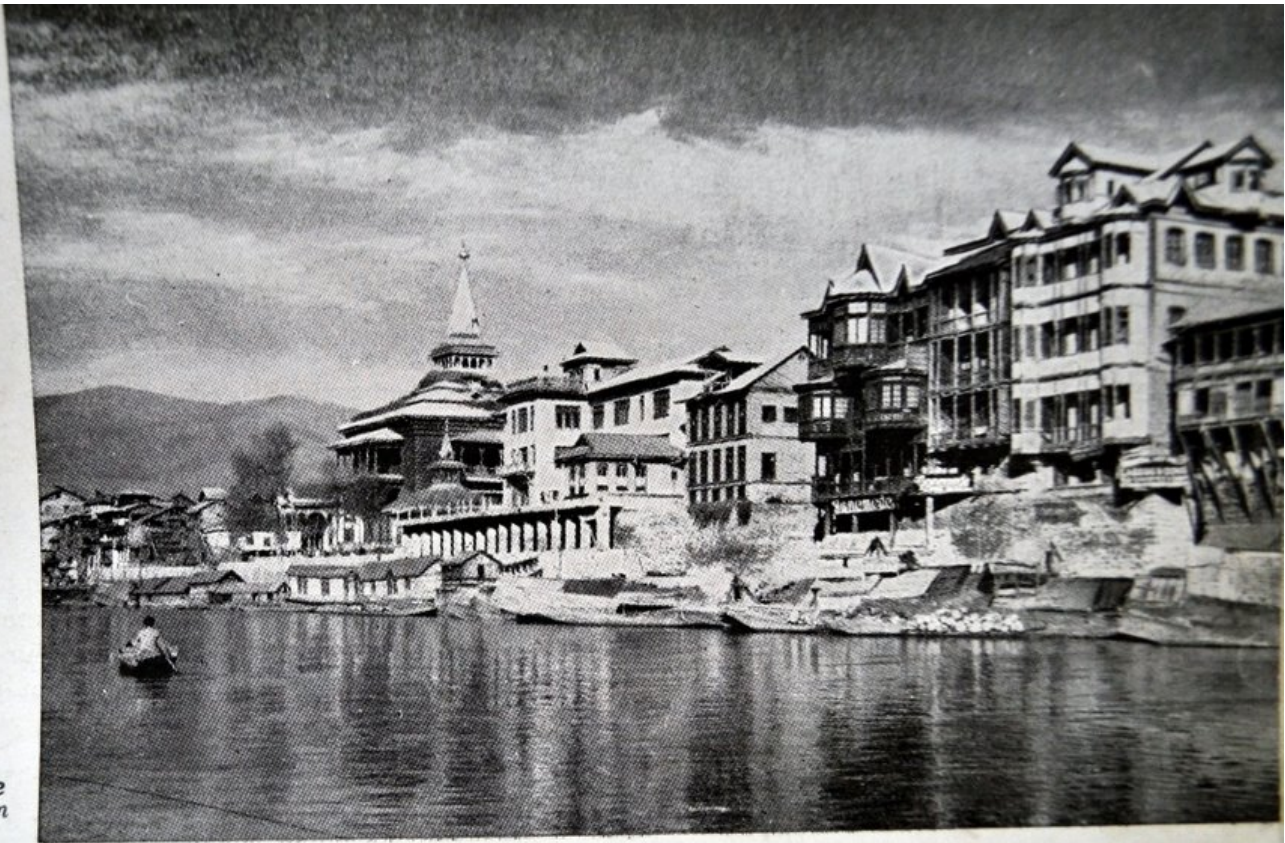
Cinemas—There are three cinema houses in Srinagar: Regal (which usually shows English pictures), Palladium and Amrish.

Banks—In Srinagar there are branches of the Imperial Bank of India, the Jammu and Kashmir Bank, the Lloyds Bank and the Punjab National Bank.

Clubs—Srinagar Club and Amarsingh Club both admit tourists as temporary members. Tennis and the usual club amenities such as billiards, a cardroom and a reading room are provided. The Srinagar Club maintains golf links and runs a golf club.

Hospitals—We hope the tourists will not

*A view of the
Shah Hamadan
mosque*



need this information but, in case Shri Maharaja Hari Singhji Hospital, Srinagar, C.M.S. Hospital, Rainawari, the Chest Diseases Hospital, the National Hospital and the Civil Veterinary Hospital are all recommended.

Places of worship—There are the Protestant Church, the Roman Catholic Church, Hari Parvat Fort, Shankaracharya Temple, Raghunath Mandir, Durga Temple, Juma Masjid, Shah Hamadan Ziarat, Maqdam Sahib Ziarat, Hazratbal Ziarat, and the Gurdwara Chatti Badshahi.

Other Places to Visit—Kashmir Government Arts Emporium, Government Silk Factory, Government Silk Weaving Factory,

Rajbagh and Government Woollen Mills.

Guides—Official guides are available at the Government of India Tourist Office, The Bund, Srinagar. Guides can also be arranged for through the Visitors' Bureau of the Kashmir State, Srinagar. Details of the usual guide service rates are given in Appendix IV.

Conveyance—Transport is available in the form of taxis, buses, tongas, ponies and *shikaras*. Besides, a Tourist Sight Seeing Service has been set up for the convenience of visitors by the Transport Department. Comfortable buses take tourists to all parts of the Valley at nominal cost. The schedule of bus timings can be had from any tourist office.

OTHER HEALTH-RESORTS

Gulmarg (the meadow of flowers)—Of the other health-resorts in the valley, *Gulmarg* is the most attractive and the most salubrious. It is only twenty-nine miles from *Srinagar* and there is an excellent motor road for twenty-five miles up to *Tanmarg*, where garages are available and can be hired. The last four miles may be covered by pony or on foot and, with special permission, by jeep also. At the end of the climb the visitor is rewarded with a magnificent view of the huge grassy bowl which is *Gulmarg*. Hotels and delightfully constructed pine huts lie

along the sloping walls of this bowl and in the centre is a flat plain where golfers practise their drives and pony riders indulge in an occasional gallop.

Gulmarg is 8,500 feet above sea-level. The climate is excellent and it is never too hot. There are three golf links which offer all that a golfer can ask for. Of walks and picnic places the number is countless. Wherever you go you are among delightful surroundings. A walk along *Gulmarg's* circuit road affords magnificent views of the imposing *Nanga Parbat*.

Mention must, however, be made of *Khilanmarg* (the meadow of goats)—a lovely meadow four miles from and 2,000 feet above *Gulmarg*. You can walk or ride and the path winds through a delightful pine forest. *Khilanmarg* lies beyond the tree line, and

from there a steep path rises to Apharwat—a ridge 14,500 feet above sea level. On the other side of Apharwat lies the frozen lake sacred to the snake-god Ailapator (also known as Alpathar). The lake is frozen during the winter months only. Ningal Nala is another delightful place for a picnic and lies only five miles from Gulmarg. The path is almost level and passes through a pine forest. Ferozepuri Nala provides good trout fishing, and a picnic on the banks of this stream makes a pleasant day's outing.

There are many other places which are within easy reach of Gulmarg but the space available here does not permit a more exhaustive account of the opportunities for sport and enjoyment which Gulmarg and its neighbourhood offer.

Accommodation at Gulmarg—At Gulmarg

the visitor may stay at a hotel or rent a hut. Applicants for leasing Government huts can be made to the Divisional Engineer at Baramulla. Further information about huts can be had from the Director, Visitors' Bureau, Srinagar. For a short stay it is possible to reserve rooms in the local Dak Bungalow or in the Forest Rest House. The Nedous Hotel offers its patrons good rooms and excellent fare at Rs. 16 to Rs. 18 per day per person. There are other hotels which are somewhat cheaper. The daily charges for these are given in Appendix IV.

A post and telegraph office, a Government Club, a dispensary and a fair-sized bazar are some of the other facilities available in Gulmarg.

Pahalgam is second only to Gulmarg in the beauty of its landscape and its invigorat-

ing climate. It is approached from Srinagar by a sixty-mile motor road. Being only 7,000 feet above sea level, it makes comparatively fewer demands on one's energy. In recent years some good hotels have been built in Pahalgam, but the visitor who lives under canvas will get the most out of this health-resort.

Pahalgam lies on the route to Amarnath and is situated in the picturesque Liddar Valley. Every August it is visited by thousands of Hindu pilgrims who brave the rigours of climate and journey to pay homage to the Shiva lingam.

Accommodation at Pahalgam—One can stay in hotels, houses or tents. Permission to stay in the Forest Rest House, which provides two bedrooms but offers no boarding facilities, can be obtained from the Forest

Officer, Anantnag Division. The Pahalgam Club Annexe also offers accommodation arrangements for which can be made with the Director, Visitors' Bureau. A Government Tourist Bureau official is available throughout the season to give assistance and information to visitors. There is also a Post Office and a Telegraph Office. The daily rates for the hotels in Pahalgam are given in Appendix IV.

Sonmarg, meaning 'meadow of gold', is situated 51 miles to the north-east of Srinagar at 8,750 ft. above sea level and is drained by the Sind River which rises from the glacier of Harmukh two miles away. It is an extensive meadow and has an excellent camping ground. It provides an approach to the snow-line and to a number of nearby glaciers.

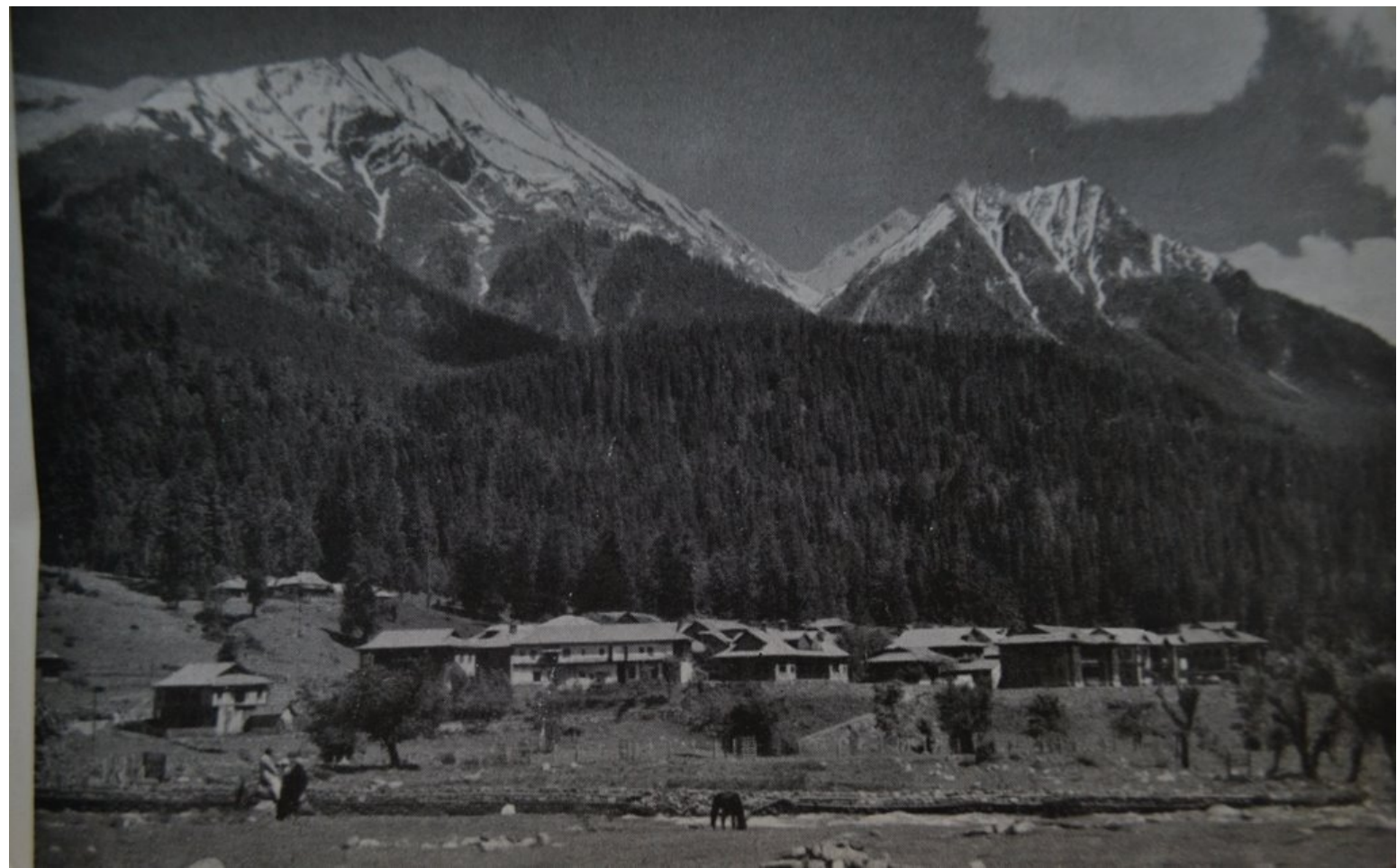
Achhabal—From Srinagar, a forty mile long motorable road leads to Achhabal via Anantnag. This garden of *chenar* groves, water cascades and fountains was one of the pleasure retreats of the empress Nur Jehan. Copious springs gush out of limestone rocks on every side and there are a number of well preserved trout streams. Lodging at moderate rates is available in a two-storeyed Government rest house.

Kokarnag is 8 miles from Achhabal and is famous for the curative properties of its beautiful springs. Only 2 miles away, near the foot of the Banihal pass, is Verinag, the source of the river Jhelum.

Gandarbal on the bank of the Sindh Nallah is a good camping site and a place where house-boats may be moored. It is only thirteen miles from Srinagar.

Manasbal is a small but extremely pretty lake eighteen miles from Srinagar. The waters of the lake are very clear and a low hill enclosing it gives it the charm of a jewel. The abundance of yellow blossomed rape-seed fields and blue iris beds in spring gives the lake added enchantment. There are two excellent camping sites on the banks. A cave near the lake was occupied by an old *faqir* who intended it to be his grave but he was eventually buried in his garden close by.

Wular Lake is believed to be the largest fresh water lake in Asia. In early summer it measures almost fifteen miles across. The journey can be performed by motor road or by river in a *shikara*. House-boats can also be taken down the river Jhelum which flows into the lake and out again. The centre of



the lake is unsafe for small boats in the afternoon when high winds rise and sweep down from the mountains without warning.



NOTES FOR VISITORS

Permits—It is necessary to obtain a permit to enter the State. Permits are issued by the Home Secretary in the State and in Delhi by the Under Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Government of India. Permits may also be obtained from the District Magistrate of Amritsar and Gurdaspur, the Tehsildar in Pathankot and from the Regional Tourist Officers at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

Petrol—This commodity is not rationed.

Registration—Tourists should get them-



A mountain
stream in
the Liddar
valley

selves registered by filling up and signing prescribed forms obtainable at the first Customs post on the border of Jammu and Kashmir.

Arms—Visitors taking arms and ammunition into the State must be in possession of a valid licence issued by a competent authority in India, normally the District Magistrate of the district where the visitor resides.

Customs—Personal effects, such as wearing apparel, bedding, toilet requisites, holiday or sporting equipment, fishing tackle, cooking utensils, an open bottle of wine or spirit, a type-writer, a radio receiving set, a petromax lamp, two cameras, stationery, etc., are allowed free.

Ration Cards—Ration cards for rice and

firewood are obtainable at the office of the Director, Visitors' Bureau, Srinagar.

House-boats—Tourists are advised to engage a licensed house-boat and enter the terms and conditions of the engagement in the form provided. The schedule of rates can be obtained from the Visitors' Bureau.

Shooting and Fishing—Information regarding permits for shooting and fishing in the State should be obtained from the Game Warden, Jammu and Kashmir Government, Srinagar.

Buying art goods—Before making a purchase the visitor should compare prices and goods. It is as well to enquire at the Kashmir Arts Emporium and the Central Market (institutions run under Government supervision) where standard goods are available at fixed prices.

Hawkers—Tourists are advised to deal only with licensed hawkers who are in possession of identity cards issued by the Director, Visitors' Bureau.

Servants—Make sure that the applicant holds a registration ticket issued by the Director, Visitors' Bureau.

Shikaras, Ponies, Coolies, etc.—A printed tariff giving details of *shikara* or pony hire and coolie charges in Srinagar, Gulmarg and

Pahalgam is obtainable at the Visitors' Bureau.

Buses—The time table and fare schedule will be supplied on application at the Visitors' Bureau.

Any other information required can be had from the Regional Tourist Officers at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, or the Tourist Reception and Information Officer, Government of India, Tourist Office, The Bund, Srinagar.





APPENDIX I

THE JOURNEY BY ROAD

The only land route to Kashmir begins at Pathankot, the terminus of the Northern Railway. The distance from Pathankot to Srinagar is 267 miles. The towns of Lakhanpore, Samba, Jammu, Udhampur, Kud, Batote, Ramban, Banihal, Upper Munda, Khanabal and Awantipora which lie *en route* are briefly described below :

Pathankot is a sprawling little town with a bazar but no comfortable hotels. The railway station provides a couple of rooms and a restaurant where vegetarian and non-vegetarian food is served to railway passengers. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir maintains a Tourist Bureau at

Pathankot. The Tourist Officer in charge renders assistance to prospective tourists, arranges for transport and gives information about sight-seeing.

Jammu—This city of temples is 67 miles from Pathankot and is situated at 1,000 ft. above sea-level. It is the winter capital of the State. There is a post office, a telegraph office, a hospital, a Government dak bungalow and some hotels. A branch of the Visitors' Bureau has been established in the dak bungalow.

Udhampur is at a distance of 42 miles from Jammu and at 2,348 ft. above sea-level. This is a large town with a bazar, a post office, a telegraph office, a dispensary and a

Government dak bungalow with 6 bedrooms. The dak bungalow also undertakes catering arrangements for tourists.

Kud—24 miles from Udhampur, this town is situated at a height of 5,700 ft. above sea level. It has a dak bungalow, a post office, a telegraph office and a dispensary. It is a summer resort and has a beautiful spring.

Batote is 12 miles from Kud and 5,116 ft. above sea-level. It is a health-resort and has a dak bungalow with 5 rooms. There is also a post office, a telegraph office and a dispensary. At this point a road branches off alongside the river Chenab to Bhadarwah and Kishtwar.

Ramban is 17 miles from Batote and its altitude is 2,250 ft. It has a post office, a telegraph office and a dispensary. Here, a suspension bridge spans the river Chenab.

Banihal is 23 miles from Ramban. Its height is 5,880 ft. It has a post office, a telegraph office and a dak bungalow. From this point the road ascends directly to Banihal Pass.

Upper Munda is 29 miles from Banihal and is 7,224 ft. above sea level. It has a dak bungalow with 3 bedrooms. 5 miles from here, a road branches off to Verinag Spring.

Qazikund is a small town, with a dak bungalow, a post office, and a telegraph office. It is 10 miles from Upper Munda. 12 miles further lies Khanabal which is situated at 5,236 ft. From here, roads lead to Anantnag, Pahalgam, Achhabal and Kokarnag.

Awantipora is 14 miles from Khanabal. Its height is 5,225 ft. and it has a post office. The town was the capital of a famous king

called Awantiverman who built two temples here. Ruins of the temples still lie along the road.

The first 64 miles from Pathankot to Srinagar is comfortable driving on a straight asphalt road. Further on lies the Banihal Cart Road. Popularly known as the Jammu Srinagar Road, this road winds through the most picturesque countryside. Both for scenic beauty and in engineering skill, the road is considered to be the finest built on the hills anywhere in India. The highest point on this 200 mile long road is the Banihal pass, 8,985 ft. above sea-level. The tunnel known as Banihal pass is 650 ft. long. Petrol pumps are available at almost all important stages such as Pathankot, Lakhanpur, Samba, Jammu, Udhampur, Kud, Batote, Ramban, Banihal and Khanabal.

From Pathankot there is a direct daily bus service to Srinagar. The Jammu and Kashmir Government Transport Department has provided an adequate number of super de-luxe buses, (latest model) station wagons (9 seater and 6 seater), a good number of Hillman cars, and jeeps which ply on this road. Each bus has a seating capacity of 21 passengers with a cabin for luggage.

The entire journey from Pathankot to Srinagar is accomplished in two days. The first day the bus goes to Kud or Banihal which is about half way between Pathankot and Srinagar. At both these places there are Government dak bungalows which provide board and lodging for visitors. On the second day the bus gets to Srinagar.

To reserve seats in buses or cars visitors should write either to the Tourist Officer,

Jammu and Kashmir Government, Pathankot, or to the Traffic Manager, Transport Department, Pathankot. Such requests should be made at least 10 days in advance of the exact date of arrival at Pathankot. The nature of transport desired and the exact date of arrival should also be communicated and half the fare should be remitted in advance.

Visitors intending to perform the entire journey in their own car, bus, or jeep should obtain written permission from the Transport Department of their respective States to do so.

In addition, there are the following bus services:

- (i) *Pathankot to Jammu*—6 buses daily. The fare per seat is Rs. 4 and Rs. 3 for first and second class passengers respectively.
- (ii) *Amritsar to Jammu*—Messrs. Suraj Bus Co. run a 38 seater bus daily. The bus leaves Amritsar about half an hour after the arrival of the Frontier Mail. The fare is Rs. 5 and Rs. 3-8 for first and second class passengers respectively.
- (iii) *Jammu to Srinagar*—Super buses (9 seater) complete the journey in two days with a night's halt at Banihal. The fare is Rs. 14 and Rs. 10 for first and second class passengers respectively.

APPENDIX II

HINTS FOR CLOTHING

March, April and May is spring in Kashmir, but it often gets windy and cold. A thick shirt, an under-shirt, a sweater and a light woollen suit should answer the tourists' needs most of the time. Visitors going to hill stations such as Gulmarg and Pahalgam must, however, carry an overcoat and a heavy woollen suit. An umbrella and a raincoat will also come in handy as there are occasional rains during the months of March and April. The latter part of this season is an ideal time to visit Kashmir.

June, July and August are the summer months. Cotton or silk suits are most suitable. Sometimes, light woollen suits are not

intolerable. Slightly heavier clothing is required for Gulmarg and Pahalgam.

September, October and November are pleasant with a certainty of crystal clear days and more vigour and strength in the air. Mornings and evenings are quite cold. A light warm suit towards the beginning of the season and a heavy woollen suit towards the end is adequate. In the hill stations the temperature is much lower than in Srinagar and heavier clothing is necessary.

December, January and February are cold. January and February are generally frosty. Usually, the season's first snowfall occurs in the last week of December. In the hill-stations, it starts to snow in

November or even earlier. A heavy woollen suit and an over-coat are required. In Gulmarg and Pahalgam a woollen undershirt, a

thick shirt, a woollen jersey, a heavy woollen suit, a heavy over-coat and a blanket are necessary.

APPENDIX III

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

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AKBAR	..	The great Mogul Emperor of India who laid the gardens known as Nasim Bagh in Srinagar ..	26
AMARNATH CAVE	..	A place of pilgrimage, sacred to the Hindus ..	33
AILAPATOR (Alipathar)	..	The serpent god	32
BANIHAL PASS	..	The highest point on the way to Srinagar ..	42

CHENAR	..	A huge, shady tree peculiar to Kashmir	..	17
CHASHMASHAHI	..	A Mogul garden with a beautiful spring famous for its medicinal properties	26
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JUMMA MASJID	..	A congregational mosque at Srinagar	24
LALLA ROOKH	..	Meaning tulip faced. Sir Thomas Moore has used the name as a title for his famous poem on Kashmir	5
LIDDAR VALLEY	..	A picturesque region in the neighbourhood of Pahalgam	33
MAHADEV	..	Held in sacred esteem by Hindus as being an abode of Lord Shiva, this is one of the highest mountains shouldering the Valley	12
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APPENDIX IV

GENERAL INFORMATION

HOTELS			GULMARG	Non-vegetarian	Vegetarian
SRINAGAR	Single room	Double room	Golf View Hotel	Rs. 12	Rs. 10
Nedous Hotel	Rs. 20	Rs. 40	Green Land Hotel	" 10	" 9
Park Hotel	" 11	" 21	Tourist Hotel	" 10	" 7
Boulevard Hotel	" 12	" 26	Kingsley Hotel	" ..	" 7
Grand Hotel	" 8	" 12	Indian National Hotel	" 6	" 5
			Khalsa Hotel	" 6	" 5

PAHALGAM

	Single room	Double room
Plaza Hotel	Rs. 12	Rs. 20
Pine View Hotel	„ 12-8	„ 24
Wazir Hotel	„ 2	„ 4
Kashmir Khalsa Hotel	„ 7	„ 9

RESTAURANTS

Ahdoos, Residency Road, Srinagar.
 Grand, Residency Road, Srinagar.
 Odeon, Residency Road, Srinagar.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES

General Post and Telegraph Office, The Bund,
 Srinagar.

Smaller post offices are scattered all over the
 Valley.

DAILY AIR-SERVICES**(i) Delhi-Srinagar (via Amritsar):**

(a) Departure from Delhi	8-30 a.m.
Arrival in Srinagar	12-25 p.m.
(b) Departure from Srinagar	3-00 p.m.
Arrival in Delhi	6-50 p.m.

(ii) Srinagar-Pathankot :

(a) Departure from Srinagar	8-30 a.m.
Arrival in Pathankot	9-30 a.m.
(b) Departure from Pathankot	10-00 a.m.
Arrival in Srinagar	11-00 a.m.

The fare schedules are as follows :

Delhi to Srinagar	..	Rs. 110
Amritsar to Srinagar	..	Rs. 55
Pathankot to Srinagar	..	Rs. 40
Jammu to Srinagar	..	Rs. 35

44 lb. of luggage per passenger is allowed free from Delhi to Srinagar and freight

charges for excess luggage are Re. 0-8-9 per lb.

HOUSE-BOATS

Category	Accommodation	Rent per month	Board and lodging per day
Special	5 rooms	Rs. 800	Rs. 30 for one person „ 40 for two persons „ 10 for every additional person
Do.	4 rooms	„ 600	„ 28 for one person „ 38 for two persons „ 10 for every additional person
'A' Class	5 rooms	„ 650	„ 25 for one person „ 35 for two persons „ 8 for every additional person
Do.	4 rooms	„ 500	„ 22 for one person „ 32 for two persons „ 8 for every additional person

(About 25 of these house-boats are equipped with sanitary fittings)

GUIDE SERVICES

- I. In and around headquarters : .. Rs. 8
(a) half day .. Rs. 12
(b) whole day
- II. Outside headquarters : .. Rs. 15
(irrespective of the time actually spent on guide duty) per day

In addition, the expenses of board and lodging for the guide, his taxi, bus or train fare (II class) and other incidental charges such as fee for entry into forts, museums, etc., will be borne by the tourist or tourist parties engaging him. No tips, gratuity or presents can be accepted by the guide nor will he solicit any testimonials or certificates from the tourists.

BANKS

Imperial, Residency Road, Srinagar.
Lloyds, Residency Road, Srinagar.
Punjab National, Hotel Road, Srinagar.

CLUBS

Amar Singh, Munshi Bagh, Srinagar.
Srinagar, The Bund, Srinagar.
Island, Pahalgam.
Golf, Gulmarg.
Nagin, Nagin Lake, Srinagar.

SHOPPING CENTRES

Government Arts Emporium, Old Residency, Srinagar.
Government Central Market, Exhibition Ground, Srinagar.
The Bund, Srinagar.
Kothi Bagh, Srinagar.



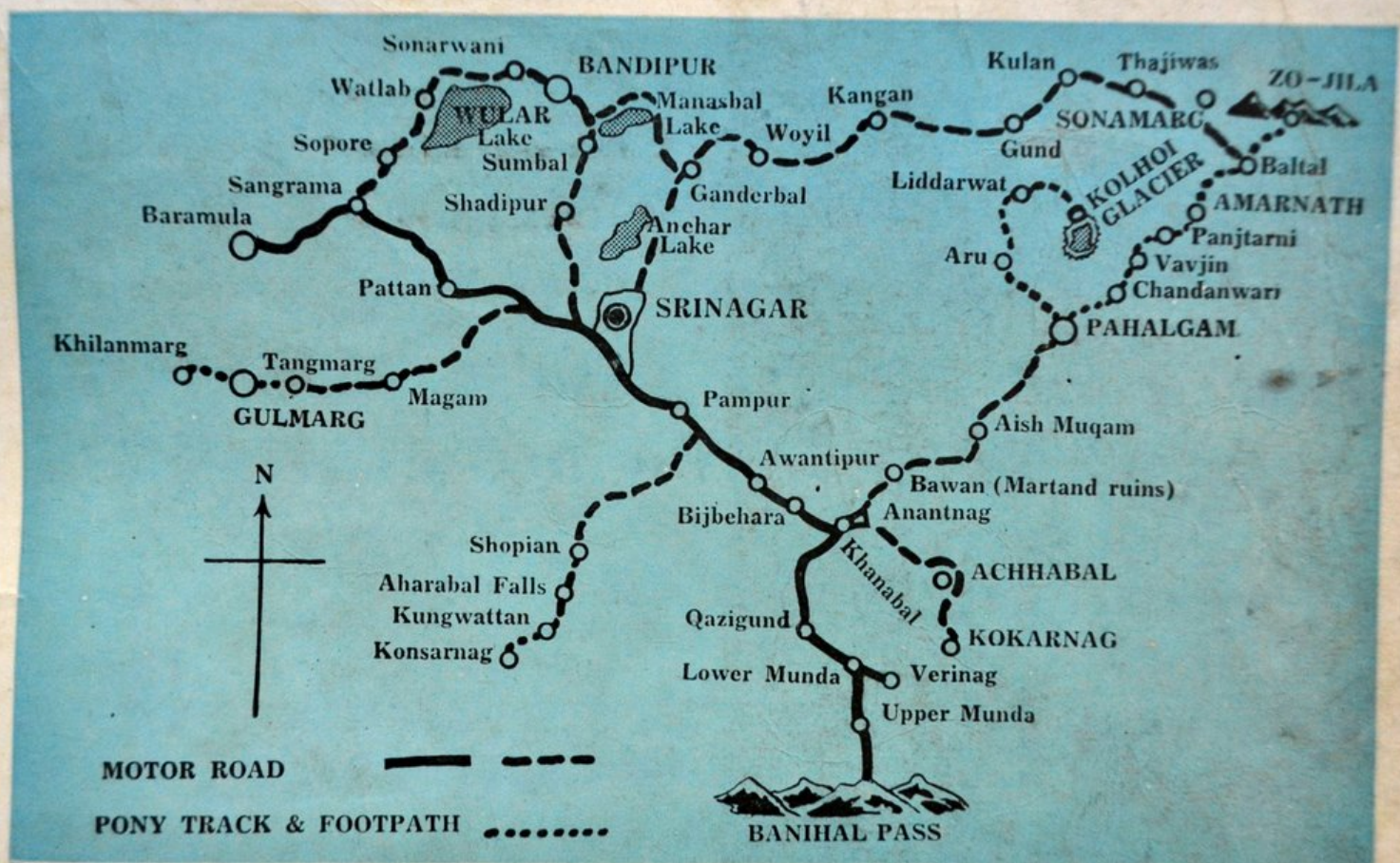
WITH THE COMPLIMENTARY
TRAVEL AGENCIES
 TOURIST DIVISION
 MINISTRY OF TOURISM
 GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

The American Express Company, Residency Road, Srinagar.
 The Himalayan Agency, Residency Road, Srinagar.
 Auchkan and Company, Residency Road, Srinagar.
 Babar Shah and Company, Residency Road, Srinagar.

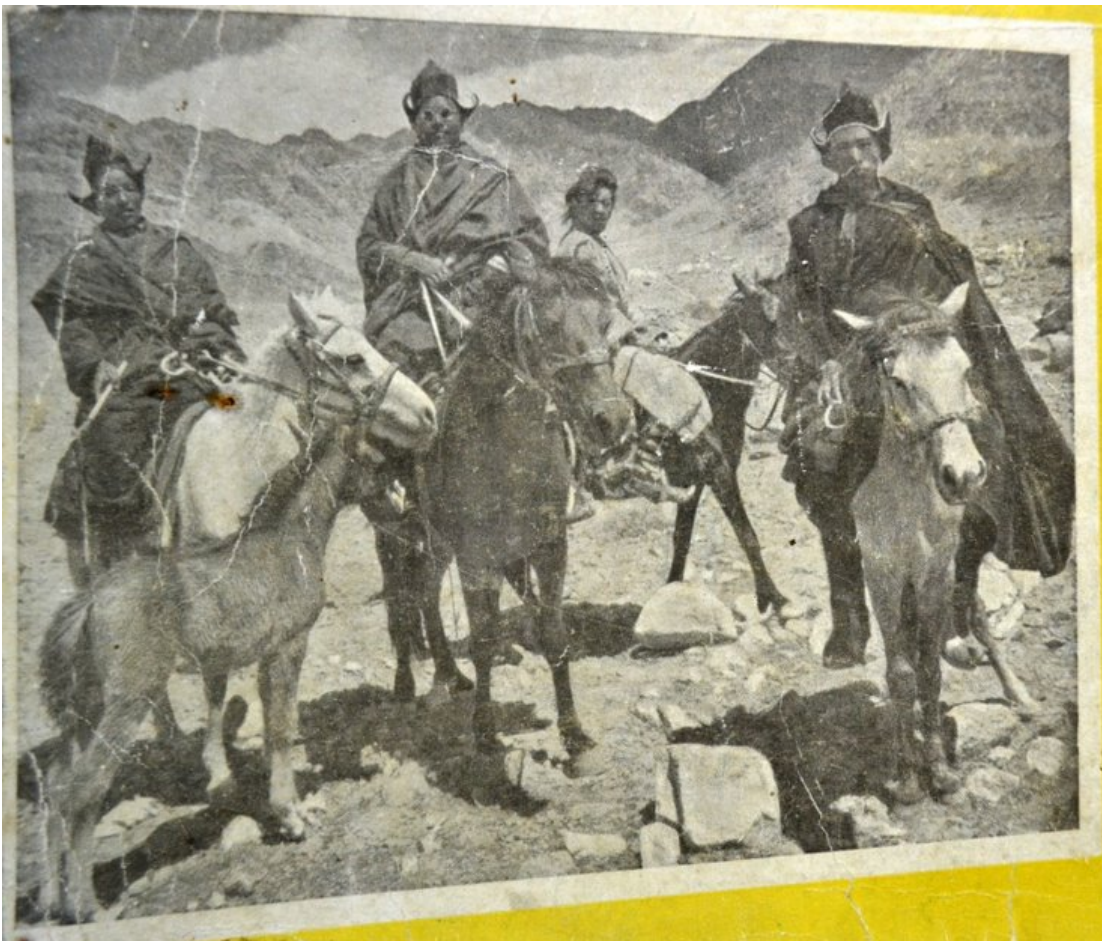
TRANSPORT SERVICES

Jammu and Kashmir Government Transport Service, Hotel Road, Srinagar.
 Tourist Bus Service, Hotel Road, Srinagar.
 N. D. Radha Kishan and Son, Railway Out-Agency, Hotel Road, Srinagar.

Lady from Ladakh



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